

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim [[1]] 21, wherein said left and right lateral ~~extensions~~ portions further each comprise surfaces lying in respective planes ~~comprise an inside edge, an outside edge, an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein said inside edge joins said centralized vertical extension to form a substantially horizontal plane.~~
3. (Currently amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 2, wherein said ~~upper surface~~ respective planes of said left and right lateral portions each form ~~forms~~ an angle of about 0 to 60 degrees below said ~~substantially horizontal plane~~ a reference plane orthogonal to said centralized vertical dimension.
4. (Currently amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 2, wherein said left and right lateral portions each comprise an inside edge and an outside edge, and wherein the length of each said inside edge is less than the length of each said outside edge.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 2, further comprising a recess wherein each said upper surface lies adjacent to said centralized vertical ~~extension~~ dimension.

8-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 21, wherein said centralized vertical ~~extension~~ dimension lies in a plane having ~~has~~ a trapezoidal, circular or curved cross-sectional shape.

18. (Previously presented) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 21, wherein said therapeutic or prophylactic device is made from a material selected from the group consisting of a biocompatible material, a bioactive material, and a bioresorbable material.

19. (Previously presented) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 21, wherein said therapeutic or prophylactic device comprises a biocompatible fiber mesh.

20. (Previously presented) The therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device according to claim 21, wherein said therapeutic device comprises a material selected from the group consisting of: expandable polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE); a material to facilitate regeneration of disc tissue; and a hygroscopic material.

21. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic or prophylactic intervertebral disc wall treatment device comprising a biocompatible material for placement in and across an aperture in the intervertebral disc wall such that said material forms a bridge providing a platform for a traverse of fibroblasts or other normal cells of repair existing in and around the various layers of the spinal disc annulus, and

the device having means for acute securement of said device to said disc annulus, and

the device further comprising an elongated centralized vertical dimension, said centralized vertical dimension further comprising a horizontal axis, and a left and a right lateral portion along said horizontal axis.

22. (Canceled).